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**From:** Wildeman, Anna [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=05DD0AF69BFA40429E438B7646502B99-WILDEMAN, A]  
**Sent:** 2/7/2019 4:32:36 PM  
**To:** Ross, David P [ross.davidp@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Dennis, Allison [Dennis.Allison@epa.gov]; Kramer, Jessica L. [kramer.jessical@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** Re: For your approval : MEDIA INQUIRY - Seattle Times/NW Public Radio - EPA Request to Withdraw 401 Cert

There is an email from mark below that clarifies dan's original statement wasn't in response to press inquiries. I wanted to reiterate to Allison because it wasn't entirely clear based on the thread.

**Anna Wildeman**

Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator  
Office of Water  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20460  
202-564-5700  
Wildeman.Anna@epa.gov

On Feb 7, 2019, at 10:03 AM, Ross, David P <[ross.davidp@epa.gov](mailto:ross.davidp@epa.gov)> wrote:

Why would Mark say that he's waiting for a response if it didn't get sent? I'm growing very frustrated with R10's incompetence on this issue.

Sent from my iPad

On Feb 7, 2019, at 7:31 AM, Dennis, Allison <[Dennis.Allison@epa.gov](mailto:Dennis.Allison@epa.gov)> wrote:

Ah, good to know.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 7, 2019, at 3:07 AM, Wildeman, Anna <[wildeman.anna@epa.gov](mailto:wildeman.anna@epa.gov)> wrote:

I am fine with the response you propose below. Copying Dave for awareness.

Also to be clear, the email from Dan yesterday was not related to media inquiries, it was related to requests from the public for copies of the draft permits. This is the first I've heard of these media requests.

**Anna Wildeman**

Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator  
Office of Water  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20460  
202-564-5700  
Wildeman.Anna@epa.gov

On Feb 6, 2019, at 10:26 PM, Dennis, Allison <[Dennis.Allison@epa.gov](mailto:Dennis.Allison@epa.gov)> wrote:

Another media inquiry response for your review. This time it's via epa region 10 re: the recent epa request to wdraw 401 cert for Columbia river. You might have received an email from the region 10 water division direction yesterday with a longer proposed response . He has since shortened it up ( see below ) . We'd like to get this to the reporter as soon as possible since her given deadline has already passed . -Allison  
\*\*\*

**Media Outlet:** Seattle Times/NW Public Radio

**Topic:** EPA request to withdraw requests to the Washington Department of Ecology for 401 certification

**Reporter Question:**

Seattle Times: Why did EPA withdraw its request for 401 certification from the Department of Ecology on draft NPDS permits for the nine federal dams on the Columbia and Snake Rivers? When is EPA sending the permits to Ecology again for certification?

NWPR: I'm looking into the EPA's recent withdrawal its 401 certification request from the Washington Department of Ecology. Would anyone at EPA be able to speak to me about this? I'm curious about the reasons for withdrawal and what this means going forward, etc.

**Proposed Response** for both inquiries :

"EPA has determined that the preliminary draft permits for which we had requested water quality certification need additional internal review. Therefore, we have withdrawn our requests for water quality certification at

this time. We fully intend to reinitiate our requests for water quality certification after we have completed our internal review and updated the preliminary draft permits, as appropriate.”

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Drinkard, Andrea"  
<[Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov](mailto:Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** February 6, 2019 at 10:08:39 PM EST  
**To:** "Lieberman, Paige"  
<[Lieberman.Paige@epa.gov](mailto:Lieberman.Paige@epa.gov)>, "Dennis, Allison" <[Dennis.Allison@epa.gov](mailto:Dennis.Allison@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: MEDIA INQUIRY - Seattle Times/NW Public Radio - EPA Request to Withdraw 401 Cert request for 9 Columbia River Dam permits

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**From:** MacIntyre, Mark  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 9:40 PM  
**To:** Drinkard, Andrea  
<[Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov](mailto:Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Opalski, Dan  
<[Opalski.Dan@epa.gov](mailto:Opalski.Dan@epa.gov)>; Holsman, Marianne  
<[Holsman.Marianne@epa.gov](mailto:Holsman.Marianne@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: MEDIA INQUIRY - Seattle Times/NW Public Radio - EPA Request to Withdraw 401 Cert request for 9 Columbia River Dam permits

Andrea: For clarity: Dan, at Chris Hladick's suggestion, reached out to Anna with the draft statement below for responding to requests for the documents.

He kindly crafted the shorter version this afternoon when our phone started wringing with reporter questions...Anna

has not seen that one. My  
mischaracterization! MM

“Thank you for your request to receive the permits referenced in Ecology’s 1/30/19 public notice. The permits in Ecology’s public notice are not public draft permits, but pre-draft permits sent to Ecology for their consideration in developing their 401 certification. We are still developing the permits with new information and will also factor in any proposed 401 certification conditions we receive from certification authorities before making a draft permit available for public comment. The timing of public comment is uncertain at this time, but we will provide sufficient time for review and comment on the public comment draft when it is released. If you would like your name to be added to our public notification list, I would be happy to do so. Note that the EPA also withdrew its request to Ecology for 401 certification on Friday, 2/1/19, so we are currently not requesting certification from Ecology or other 401 certification authorities. If you would like more information, please feel free to contact me.”

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 6, 2019, at 5:44 PM, Drinkard, Andrea <[Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov](mailto:Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov)> wrote:

Got it. Thanks.

On Feb 6, 2019, at 8:41 PM, MacIntyre, Mark <[Macintyre.Mark@epa.gov](mailto:Macintyre.Mark@epa.gov)> wrote:

Dan  
Opalski,

Our  
Water  
Director.

MM

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**From:**  
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<[Holsman.Marianne@epa.gov](mailto:Holsman.Marianne@epa.gov)>;  
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<[MacIntyre.Mark@epa.gov](mailto:MacIntyre.Mark@epa.gov)>;  
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<[Press@epa.gov](mailto:Press@epa.gov)>  
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